

CORRES. CONTROL
INCOMING LTR NO.

20783 RFO 1

DUE DATE
ACTION

Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS FIELD OFFICE
10808 HIGHWAY 93, UNIT A
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80403-8200

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CORRESPONDENCE
CONTROL

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DIST.	LTR	ENC
BOGENBERGER, V.		
BOGNAR, E.	X	
BRAILS福德, M.D.		
BURNS, T. F.		
DECK, C. A.	X	
DEGENHART, K.		
DIETERLE, S. E.		
FERRERA, D.W.		
FERRI, M.S.		
GERMAIN, A. L.		
GIACOMINI, J.		
HALL, L.		
ISOM, J. H.		
MARTINEZ, L.A.	X	
NORTH, K.	X	
PARKER, A.M.	X	
POWERS, K.		
RAAZ, R. D.		
RODGERS, A. D.		
SCOTT, G.K.	X	
SHELTON, D.C.	X	
SPEARS, M.S.		
TRICE, K.D.		
TUOR, N.R.		
VOORHEIS, G.M.		
WILLIAMS, J. L.		
BROOKS, L.	X	
BUTLER, J. L.	X	
ROSENMAN, A.	X	

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ADMN. RECORD
PATS/130Reviewed for Addressee
Corres. Control RFP12/10/01
Date By

Ref. Ltr. #

DOE ORDER #

5400-1

Mr. Jerry DePoorter, Chairman
Rocky Flats Citizens' Advisory Board
9035 Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 2250
Westminister, CO 80021

Mr. Paul Danish, Chairman
Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments
8461 Turnpike Drive
Westminister, CO 80031

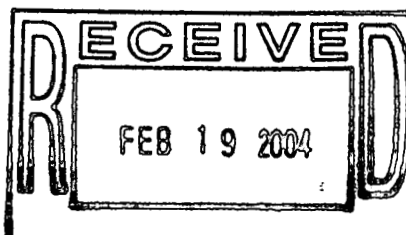
Gentlemen:

I am writing to provide the U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Field Office's (RFFO's) response to the report entitled "Hand-in-Hand: Stewardship and Cleanup," prepared by the Rocky Flats Stewardship Working Group. Overall, I believe the Working Group did a fine job on its report. Their efforts have already done much to advance the discussions on stewardship and will continue to enhance our mutual understandings of the long-term implications of cleanup at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (Site).

More specifically, I would like to share with you RFFO's reaction to the Working Group report's six overall recommendations, which synopsise some of the most pressing stewardship issues facing the Site at the present time. Please note that some of the Working Group's recommendations are paraphrased for brevity.

1. Stewardship must be a key parameter of the decision making process for selecting remedies. Requirements that need to be considered include long-term protection, duration of the remedy, etc.

This recommendation captures a central theme of the Working Group report. I believe that the remedies that we have implemented to date have considered long-term stewardship implications, as part of the remedy review required under the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), which includes long-term effectiveness as one of its essential criteria. However, I also believe that our analysis of stewardship considerations should be made more explicit in our decision documents, and that the stewardship policies and criteria that we use in making remedial decisions should be absolutely transparent. One of the first examples of this is found in the Environmental Restoration Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) Standard Operating Protocol, also known as the ER RSOP. This document contains a discussion of stewardship considerations during the remedy selection and implementation processes that will serve as a template for other decision documents to follow.

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2. **Remedies should include measures that have a high degree of certainty and multiple mechanisms to ensure the remedy will meet objectives for the life of the contaminant.**

As stated above, the CERCLA criteria that must be considered in remedy selection include factors such as protectiveness and long-term effectiveness and permanence, and RFFO will continue to propose remedies that address these criteria. We have already employed multiple mechanisms in designing certain of our remedies and will continue to do so as appropriate. A good example of this is the Mound remediation, where we coupled removal of contaminated soils with the construction of a passive groundwater treatment system to remove residual groundwater contaminants. The upcoming 903 Pad and Lip Area remedial actions will similarly need to consider multiple means of removing and/or managing contaminants in order to meet the multiple goals of meeting soil action levels and water quality standards.

3. **The Department of Energy (DOE) Manager must provide guidance for integrating stewardship into the remedy selection process.**

Setting the Site's policy and goals regarding long-term stewardship is a federal function that is the responsibility of the RFFO, and as Manager I will see to it that this responsibility is carried out. As mentioned earlier, DOE has already begun integrating stewardship into remedy selection in the ER RSOP, and this practice will continue in future decision documents. I believe that overall stewardship policies and plans for our Site are needed to ensure that end-state decisions are made consistently with stewardship in mind. These policies and plans are being embodied in a Site Stewardship Strategy. John Rampe, who I have appointed as the Rocky Flats stewardship "czar", is charged with producing the Strategy. The document will be written in close coordination with the community, and I will look to the Stewardship Working Group to provide a focal point for community discussions on these issues.

4. **The DOE and Kaiser-Hill Company, L.L.C. (Kaiser-Hill) should each designate an on-site stewardship program manager coordinate the stewardship program. Each person should have decision-making authority.**

Under our new RFFO alignment, responsibility for the stewardship program has been moved to the Assistant Manager for Environment and Stewardship, Joseph A. Legare. John J. Rampe, the Division Director for Stewardship and Infrastructure, will serve as our stewardship program manager who is responsible for producing our long-term stewardship plan. As I stated previously, long-term stewardship is inherently a federal function, but one which will require coordination with our contractor for implementation. To fill this role, Dave Shelton of Kaiser-Hill will serve as the contractor's contact for long-term stewardship issues. I will of course give my managers considerable freedom to formulate plans and policies regarding long-term stewardship. However, given the importance of this issue to both DOE and the community, I intend to be directly involved in major policy decisions for long-term stewardship.

Mr. Jerry DePoorter
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01-DOE-01807

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5. The DOE and Kaiser-Hill must clarify Kaiser-Hill's responsibilities under the closure contract to incorporate stewardship into remedy selection planning.

Given the roles and responsibilities for long-term stewardship at the Site that I have outlined above, I believe that our contract as it stands provides ample opportunity for incorporating stewardship concerns into the remedy selection process. Kaiser-Hill is obligated under its contract with DOE to comply with applicable environmental laws, including CERCLA. Again, CERCLA mandates that remedy selections consider such criteria as long-term effectiveness and other factors that directly relate to long-term stewardship. We therefore expect that Kaiser-Hill will factor long-term stewardship considerations into its proposed remedies, although it is up to RFFO to provide guidance as to how to do this. I believe that the recent redrafting of the ER RSOP provides a good example of how DOE, its contractor, and the community can work together to ensure that stewardship concerns are addressed in a decision document. The DOE is vitally concerned that its long-term responsibilities are factored into Site closure decisions, and we will not accept proposed remedies that do not adequately address these concerns.

6. The RFCA principals need to establish a set of guidelines directing how stewardship will be incorporated into the remedy selection process.

All of the RFCA principals are very concerned that stewardship values are incorporated into the remedies selected during the closure of the Site. I cannot speak for the other principals regarding establishing guidelines in this area. I can say, however, that input that has been received from both the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has been very helpful in the redrafting of the ER RSOP. We will continue to work closely with both agencies in formulating our long-term stewardship policies and plan.

Please pass along my thanks to the members of the Stewardship Working Group for a job well and thoughtfully done; we look forward to continuing to work with them. If you have questions regarding stewardship issues, please call me at (303) 966-2025 or call John Rampe of my staff at (303) 966-6246.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mazurowski
Manager

Mr. Jerry DePoorter
Mr. Paul Danish
01-DOE-01807

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cc:

J. Fiore, EM-30, HQ
M. Jones, EM-33, HQ
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